

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes an amended Fig. 9. This sheet replaces the formal drawing sheet containing Fig. 9 filed July 27, 2004 in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated May 27, 2004. In amended Fig. 9, reference indicia and heavy cross hatching in the area AΔ have been corrected to conform with the original informal Fig. 9 and the specification describing Fig. 9 on page 23 of the specification.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes within circled areas

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments claims 54, 58-61, 64-66 and 79-95 have been cancelled. Claims 36 and 49-51 have been amended. New dependent claims 96-98 have been added. Thus, with entry of the amendments claims 36, 49-53, 55-57, 62, 63, 67-78, and 96-98 are in the application.

Claims 36, 49-54, 57-69, 74-88 and 90-95 were rejected in the outstanding Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wang, U.S. 6,352,629, as stated on pages 2-9 of the Office Action. Claims 55, 56 and 89 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang, U.S. 6,352,629 as applied to claims 1 and 79, respectively, and further view of Chiang, et al., U.S. 6,398,929. The references were cited for the reasons and in the manner stated on pages 9 and 10 of the Office Action. Claims 70-73 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang, U.S. 6,352,629 as applied to claim 69, and further in view of Chiang, et al, U.S. PG Pub 2001/0050220 as stated on pages 10-12 of the Office Action. These rejections are hereby traversed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims and Applicants remarks set forth below.

By the above amendments independent claims 36 and 49 are directed to a very specific but highly advantageous embodiment according to Figure 9 of the application. Therein (see the enclosed marked-up copy of Fig. 9 labeled Exhibit 1) the first and second magnet subarrangements at 87₀ and 87_i are predominantly circular about a "second center", whereas the target and third magnet subarrangement 88 is circular about a "first center", i.e. the center of the target 88. The respective centers are shown in the enclosed

drawing and marked 1st and 2nd by the hand notations to the drawing of Exhibit 1, which corresponds to Figure 9 in the application before the enclosed corrections thereto made by the above amendments. Applicants respectfully note that by rotating all the magnet arrangements about the center of the circular target 88 (first center) the magnetic flux of the third magnet arrangement is swept along the target surface as claimed. The claimed method and apparatus in the claims as amended define for a highly compact processing or apparatus, whereat only one rotational movement on one hand rotates the magnetron magnetic field between first and second magnet subarrangements along the target, but additionally the unbalanced asymmetric magnetic field. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended patentably define over the applied references to Wang U.S. 6,352,629, Chiang, et al. U.S. 6,398,929 and Chiang, et al. US PG Pub. 2001/0050220 in view of the amendments.

As indicated above, by the amendments Figure 9 of the drawings has been amended to correct several errors therein in the use of reference indicia to conform with page 23 of the specification and the original informal drawing Figure 9 filed with the application papers.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

A Petition for Extension of Time is filed herewith to permit the timely filing of this Amendment After Final rejection. A Request for Continued Examination is also enclosed to ensure consideration of the above amendments and remarks.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 635.43483X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

APPENDIX

FIG. 9

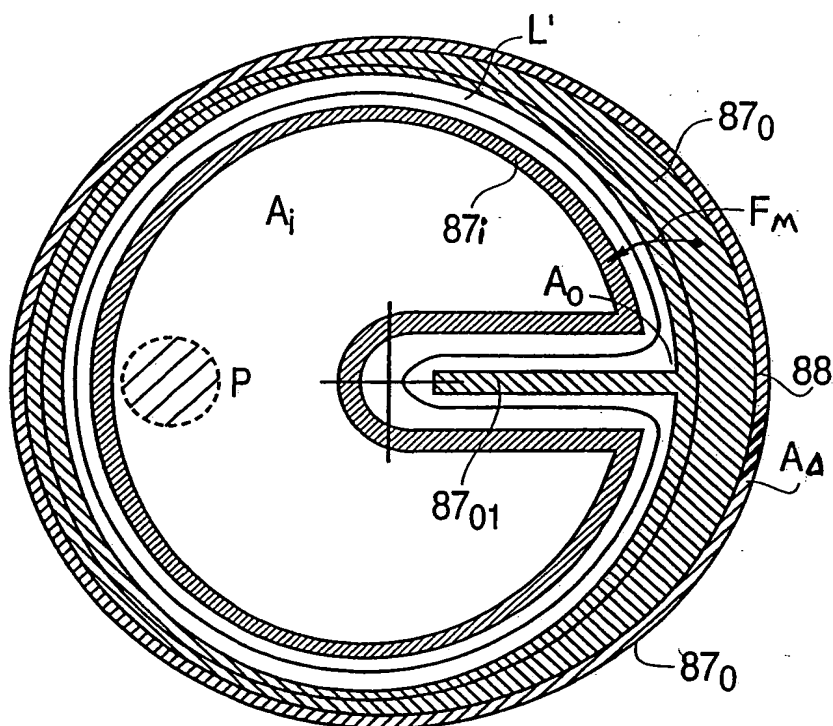


FIG. 9

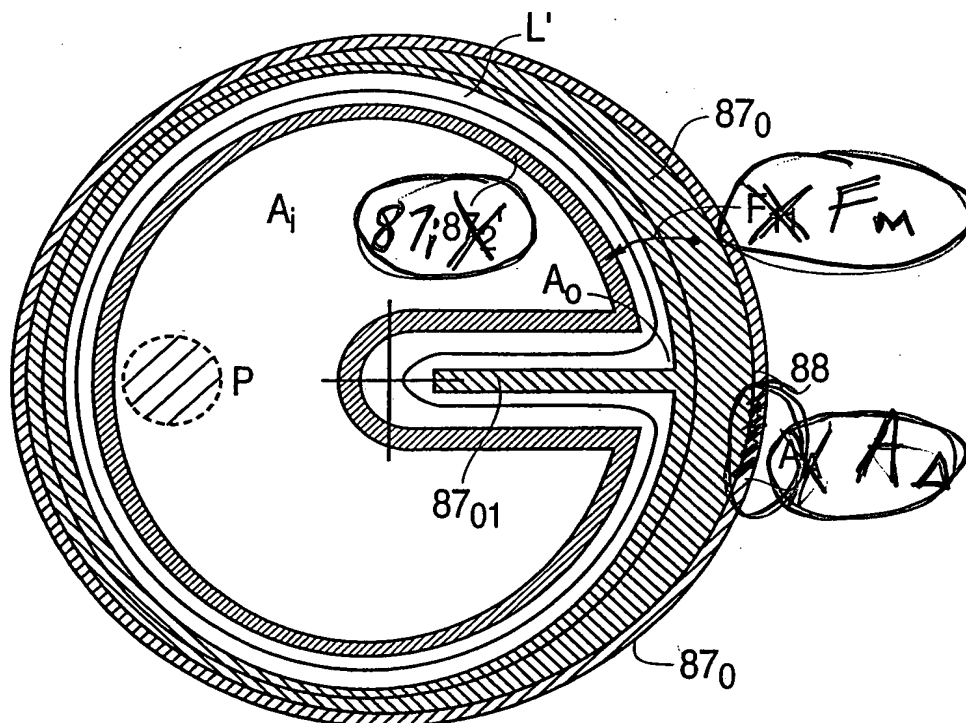


EXHIBIT 1

FIG. 9

